

RFQ-DC-04-00-00298 – High Frequency (HF) Network

This is a combined synopsis/solicitation for commercial items prepared in accordance with the format in FAR Subpart 12.6, as supplemented with additional information included in this notice. This announcement constitutes the only solicitation; quotes are being requested and an additional written solicitation will not be issued.

The Request for Quote number is RFQ-DC-04-00298 for this requirement. The applicable NAICS code is 513330(1997)/517310(2002). It is the Government's intent to award a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) and a Purchase Order by September 30, 2004 to the vendor whose quote provides the best value to the Government. The BPA will be valid nationally for a period of five (5) years. The award of a BPA does not guarantee the vendor a minimum number of orders. For potential orders placed against the Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) or Purchase Order, there may be multiple ship to destinations in the United States. For the purposes of the BPA, EPA intends to include in the BPA the successful vendor's entire related catalogue price list.

The provisions at 52.212-1, Instructions to Offerors-Commercial; 52.212-2, Evaluation-Commercial Items; 52.212-3, Offeror Representations & Certifications-Commercial Items; 52.212-4, Contract Terms and Conditions-Commercial Items; and 52.212-5, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders-Commercial Items apply to this acquisition. These references may be viewed at www.arnet.gov.

The specific evaluation criteria to be included are the following: a) technical capability, b) price, and c) past performance. For the past performance evaluation, provide three references with contact information. Vendors must include a completed copy of 52.212-3 with their quote.

All correspondence or inquiries should be forwarded to Christine Edwards, Contracting Officer at edwards.christine@epa.gov or (202) 564-2182 no later than Friday, September 10, 2004 at 12:00 PM.

Quotes must be received by 3:00 PM on Tuesday, September 21, 2004.

REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION: The successful vendor shall engineer, furnish, and test (at vendor location) a reliable, high performance and secure HF communication network for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Regional Response Centers and other Agency facilities. The HF radio system will be capable of operating in the full HF band and support transmission/reception of voice and data traffic in fixed and mobile platforms. Additionally, the vendor shall provide other capabilities such as remote control, phone interface to public switched telephone network, and the scalability to establish a full performance HF network. The HF equipment suite (Transceiver-modem-antenna and peripherals) shall provide high quality, reliable and secure voice/data/e-mail communication in the HF band (1.6 - 30 MHz) and amateur radio band with the following requirements:

User friendly handset - provide access to all programming and procedures in a convenient and consistent manner. The handset shall support diverse requirements ranging from traditional manual voice operations to sophisticated Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) calling procedures and be Joint Interoperability Test Command (JICT) certified as compliant with MIL STD 188-141B specifications.

Programming - program channels, functions and addresses into the HF system. Functions can be accessed via a series of configurable hot keys. Built-in address book that can store up to 100 addresses and up to 400 channels.

Computer Control and Interface - can be controlled by a computer through an RS232 port that will expedite user operations, communication handling, logging and other automated applications.

Data Communication - when equipped with modem should support high speed data communication to provide data and e-mail capabilities. System should have the ability to: 1) work with POP3/SMTP PC email clients; 2) provide message compression and batching, automatically resume interrupted file transfers, and automatically answer calls; 3) send files directly to other stations; and 4) for text messages up to 90 characters, not require an external computer.

Phone Interface - ability to use existing agency phone system to connect to the HF system to make phone calls. The radio/phone interface can be operated manually or left unattended to provide fully automatic connection between radio and agency telephone network. Any station in the HF network equipped with the phone interface may use the interface to make and receive local or long distance calls. Additional requirements are high quality voice through in-built signal processing and speed dial by pre-programming.

Remote Control - ability to remotely control the transceiver from another location. The connection between the control point and the transceiver unit can be a single 2-wire leased line or radio signal.

Remote Diagnostic and Configuration - capability for another radio station to measure parameters (e.g signal strength) and remotely update the transceiver configuration parameters through a text message sent from the control station to the remote station.

Security - include necessary encryption modules or software to provide communication security.

Fault Protection and Built-in Test Equipment (BITE) - should be fully protected from faults and equipment to be covered by multi-year vendor warranty. User should be able to initiate BITE process within the system to troubleshoot, test and report on system performance and problems.

Easy Installation - designed for easy installation in fixed and mobile environments. The system should be compact enough for placement on the work surface of a standard office cubicle or to be mounted in a small rack below.

Training and Support - provide initial training at no cost and future venues to provide the long term technical support and maintenance.

Shipping Arrangement - Because the equipment will be distributed to different facilities in EPA and each facility may have a different timeline in its readiness to set up the HF station, vendor will hold the equipment in their storage. EPA will provide shipping information and direct the vendor where to send the equipment. Shipping will be in the United States only.

The following list is the quantity of systems required: Twelve (12) Fixed HF Stations with Voice and Remote Control. Three (3) Fixed HF Stations with Voice, Data, Phone Patch, and Remote Control. One (1) Fixed HF Station with Voice, Remote Control, and Mobile Station. One (1) Mobile Station with Voice.

Responses will not be accepted electronically. If submitting responses by U.S. mail, please mail two copies to the following address:

Environmental Protection Agency
Bid and Proposal Room, Ronald Reagan Building, 6th Floor (3802R)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460
Attn: Christine Edwards.

If submitting responses by hand delivery or courier (e.g., FedEx, UPS), please deliver two copies to the following address:

Environmental Protection Agency
Bid and Proposal Room, Ronald Reagan Building, 6th Floor (3802R)
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Attn: Christine Edwards.